

## EIF Lunchtime Seminar

# China's Social Credit System: Ruling for and by the Digital Market

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### Abstract

Markets regulate what people can do by price, States regulate what people should do by law. Taking the starting point of a pre-study based on explorative interviews in China and scholarly discussions, this paper argues that China's Social Credit System (SCS) adds a market-based regulation layer to law enforcement. From an economic sociology perspective, this seminar develops an analytical framework to identify market tools as disciplinary mechanisms in documents of the SCS policy design on the central political level. It shows how the state-market and to some extent the state-society relation is re-structured by framing the government as a credit service business and translating the public services it provides into market-like goods. The SCS policy design influences how the state looks at its regulatees and how they look like for markets.

We kindly ask for your registration via [eif@univie.ac.at](mailto:eif@univie.ac.at).